REMARKS

Applicant hereby replies to the Office Action mailed on April 19, 2005, within the three month shortened period. Claims 1-11 and 13-35 were pending in the application and the Examiner rejects claims 1-11 and 13-35. Applicant adds claim 36 and cancels claims 9-10, 12-18, 21, 24-26 and 29-35 without prejudice from filing similar claims with similar subject matter. No new matter is added in this Reply. Applicant asserts that the application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the pending claims is requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejects claims 1-11 and 13-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Markus et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,490,601 ("Markus"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Markus discloses a server for automatically filling in form fields of an electronic document by a user creating a profile, wherein the profile contains information that would be commonly used to fill out an online form such as, for example, first and last name, address, telephone number, email address, credit card number, etc. When the user subsequently accesses an online form that has been previously mapped by a privacy bank, a profile bundle is created and transmitted to the user's browser application, where data elements from the bundle are inserted into the various form fields as indicated by the map.

According to Markus, in order to automatically fill form fields, a user must set up an account with a "privacy bank". In addition to choosing a log-in ID and password, the user enters text into a variety of fields reflecting common data requirements of an electronic form (e.g. name, address, telephone number, email address, etc.). This data is then stored at a privacy bank server where it may be subsequently retrieved, transmitted to the user's computer over a network and used to fill an electronic form.

Generally speaking, various elements of personal data can be classified as either static or dynamic. Static information is that which is not subject to frequent change such as, for example, a name and social security number. However, for the most part, personal data is dynamic and therefore subject to change. Such change may result from a residence move, business move, career change, credit card cancellation, etc. Users are more likely to be reminded to update their privacy bank account information only after attempting to use the service to fill an electronic form. For example, a user accesses an electronic form and invokes the fill server to fill the form with his

personal data. After the form is filled, the user notices that the address entered in the form is his old address. The user will need to enter the correct address in the electronic form and then subsequently remember to access his privacy bank account to update his address in the privacy bank account.

The Markus system provides for one-way communication of personal data between the privacy bank server and the user during the form filling process. In other words, personal data is passed from the privacy bank server to the user in order to complete a form, however personal data does not pass from the electronic form on the user's computer to the privacy account server. Therefore, if the user manually enters a correction to data within the electronic form, the corrected data is not transmitted to the privacy bank server in order to update the privacy bank account. As such, Markus does not disclose or suggest "obtaining user entered data from the electronic form, wherein the user entered data is at least one of absent from the user profile and different from the user data in a corresponding field" and "updating the user profile with the user entered data," as similarly recited by independent claims 1 and 36.

The dependent claims include all the limitations of independent claim 1, so the dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons set forth above, as well as in view of their own respective features.

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is thus requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2814. Applicant invites the Office to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner has any questions regarding this Reply or the present application in general.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 19, 2005   By:

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